

IN THE CLAIMS

*The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:*

1. (*Currently Amended*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, further comprising:

a weighting unit that weights each of the delay processed audio signals from the first and second delay units to be supplied to the loudspeakers in accordance with provided gain control information; and

a storage unit that stores the first directivity control information, which sets the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit as a narrow directivity, and the second directivity control information, which sets the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit as a wide directivity,

wherein the directivity control unit also generates the gain control information coefficient, and supplies the gain control information coefficient to the weighting unit.

2. (*Previously Presented*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the amount of delays obtained by the second delay is 0 or an equal amount.

3. (*Currently Amended*) An audio signal supply apparatus for an array speaker unit comprising a plurality of loudspeakers, comprising:

a branching unit that branches [[an]] a same input audio signal into two or more signals;

a first delay unit that provides a first delay for one of the branched audio signals and supplies first delay processed signals to each of the loudspeakers of the array speaker unit in accordance with first provided directivity control information;

a second delay unit that provides a second delay for another of the branched audio signals and supplies second delay processed signals to each of the loudspeakers of the array speaker unit in accordance with second provided directivity control information;

a directivity control unit that generates the first directivity control information and the second directivity control information so that a directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained by the first delay differs from the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained by the second delay, and supplies the generated information respectively to each of the first delay unit and the second delay unit; and

a weighting unit that weights each of the delay processed audio signals from the first and second delay units to be supplied to the loudspeakers in accordance with a provided gain coefficient for each of the delay processed audio signals; and

an adding unit that adds the first and second delay processed signals applied to each of the respective loudspeakers.

4. (*Previously Presented*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained through the first delay is a narrow directivity, and the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained through the second delay is a wide directivity.

5. (*Previously Presented*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the amount of delays obtained by the second delay is 0 or an equal amount.

6. (*Previously Presented*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, further including:

    a frequency property correction unit that corrects a frequency property of one of the branched audio signals output to one of the first or second delay unit.

7. (*Currently Amended*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 3, further including: a weighting unit that weights each of the audio signals from the first and second delay units to be provided to the loudspeakers in accordance with provided gain control information, wherein the directivity control unit generates the gain control information, which is supplied to the weighting unit.

8. (*Previously Presented*) The audio signal supply apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained through the first delay overlap with the directional characteristic of the array speaker unit obtained through the second delay.